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AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY

FROM

EDINBURGH TO BERWICK.

ILLUSTRATED WITH A MAP.

❧❧❧
PRICE 4d.
❧❧❧

EDINBURGH:

JOHN THOMSON & CO.

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1846.

Lately Published, An Account of the Edinburgh and
Glasgow Railway, with Maps, &c. Price 6d.

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Plan of the City of Edinburgh.



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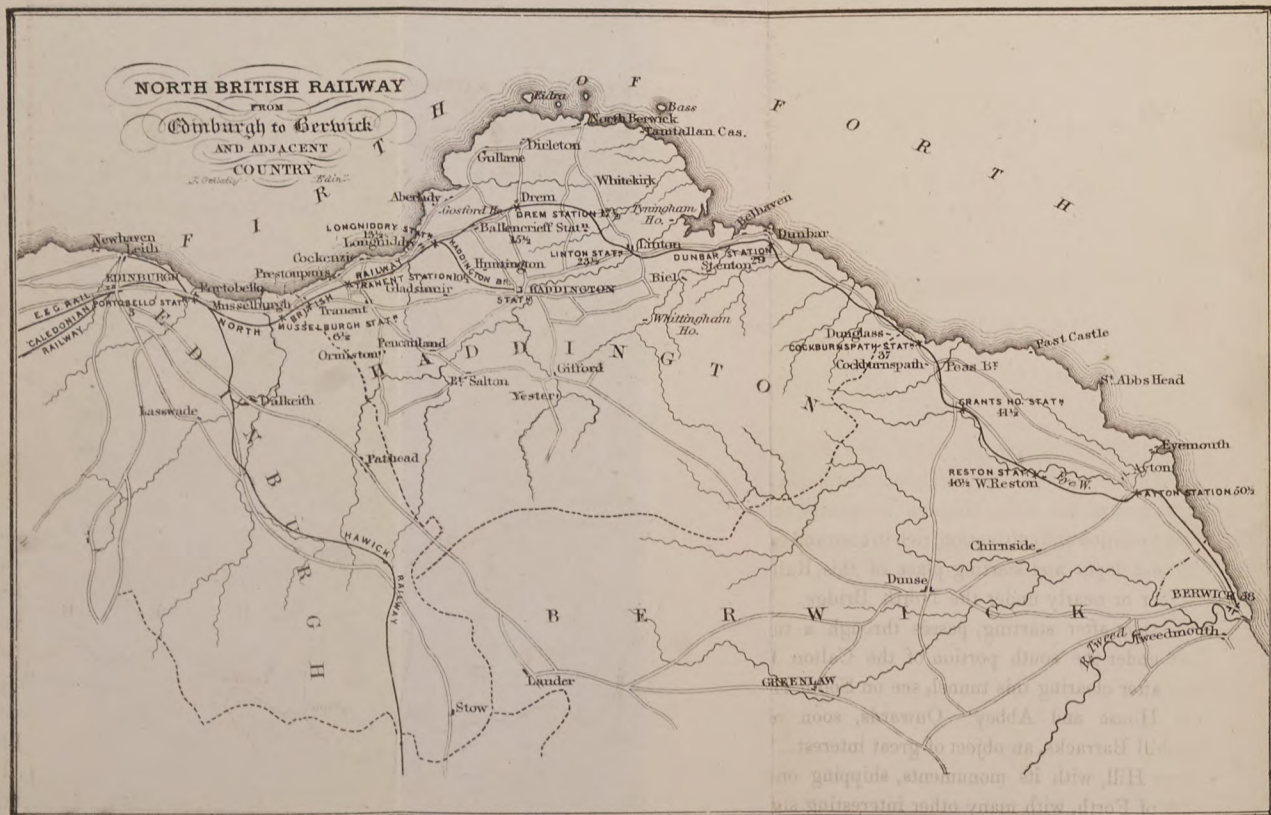


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THE

NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY.

THE NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY from Edinburgh to Berwick, consists of 13 Stations, comprehending a distance of 58 miles, through a country in the finest condition and cultivation, rich in corn and cattle. A grand depôt and starting place of this Railway is under or nearly under the North Bridge. The train, soon after starting, passes through a tunnel made under the south portion of the Calton Hill. Soon after clearing this tunnel, see on South Holyrood House and Abbey. Onwards, soon reach Piershill Barracks, an object of great interest. The Calton Hill, with its monuments, shipping on the Frith of Forth, with many other interesting sights, are seen to advantage from the Railway.

PORTOBELLO—1st STATION.

From Edinburgh 3 miles.....Berwick 55 miles.

Portobello has risen into a place of great importance in a short time. It began from a single cottage built by a seaman who was engaged in an expedition to South America in 1739, and therefore called it Portobello, to record the capture of that town and action, in which he had been present. Other houses being erected in the neighbourhood, the name of Portobello extend to them all, and thus the village acquired its designation. There is now in Portobello various manufactories, and extensive glass works, a soap work, a lead work, &c. Near the shore there is an excellent suite of hot and cold baths. The accommodation for sea bathing is very extensive and complete.

MUSSELBURGH—2nd STATION.

From Edinburgh 6½ miles.....Berwick 51½ miles.

It is said to have taken its name from a mussel bank near the mouth of the river Esk. At one time it was connected with Inveresk, and governed by the Monks of Dunfermline. It is now governed by a provost, three bailies, a treasurer, &c. It joins with Leith and Portobello in sending a member to parliament. Musselburgh consists of one main street in the direction of East and West, and serves as a part of the great London Road. Pinkie House, Sir John Hope, Bart., M.P., near the east end of the town. Hailes at the west, Ferguson, Bart.

TRANENT—3rd STATION.

From Edinburgh $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles.....to Berwick $47\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

It stands at the head of an elevated ground, and consists of a street forming the line of the public road from west to east, with a cross street. In 1831, an attempt was made to establish a weekly market for the sale of grain, &c., but it proved unsuccessful. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the adjoining collieries, which have been long successfully wrought. The church of Tranent is an elegant structure. Population of the town and parish is about 4000.

LONGNIDDRY—4th STATION.

From Edinburgh $13\frac{1}{2}$ miles.....to Berwick $44\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

This is a remarkable place, and at one time much larger, during the days of John Knox. The Laird of Longniddry was a zealous reformer, and had John Knox for the tutor of his children. When residing here, he often preached in the family chapel to the inhabitants, and the ruins of that edifice, overgrown in their decay by ivy and weeping plants, are yet pointed out and visited by his admirers. *The Branch to Haddington commences here.*

HADDINGTON—5th STATION.

From Edinburgh 18 miles Berwick 49 miles.

A royal burgh, and capital of Haddingtonshire, situated on the left bank of the river Tyne on the great London Road. Haddington, the largest grain market in Scotland, held weekly, and attended by grain dealers from all parts of Britain. It is a place of considerable trade. Branches of the Bank of Scotland, British Linen Company, Western Bank of Scotland, are situated here. The burgh joins with Jedburgh, Lauder, Dunbar, and North Berwick, in electing a member of parliament. There is also an excellent academy or High School under the patronage of the magistrates. The main line of the Railway does not go nearer to Haddington than Longniddry. There is a branch line from thence into Haddington. The station is to the westward of the town.

DREM—6th STATION.

From Edinburgh 17½ miles..... Berwick 40½ miles.

A small village of this name, within 4 miles of North Berwick. The coaches to and from North Berwick and Dirleton meet the train at this station.

The village of Dirleton and its locality is by far the finest in Scotland, and there are few in England that can surpass it in picturesque beauty.

LINTON—7th STATION.

From Edinburgh 28½ miles.....Berwick 34½ miles.

A village in the parish of Prestonkirk, Haddingtonshire, on the left bank of the Tyne. A species of fall or *linn* of this water over a shelving bottom, gives a name to the place. The village has an extensive Distillery, &c.

The beautiful grounds around Tynninghame are in the vicinity of the station, and offer great inducements to Tourists to visit this locality. The farmstead at Phantassie, in the immediate neighbourhood, is deemed the most extensive and complete in the kingdom.

DUNBAR—8th STATION.

From Edinburgh 29 miles.....Berwick 29 miles.

Dunbar is exactly half way between Edinburgh and Berwick. Its name is familiar in Scottish History, and much connected with her story. At present there are about 35,000 barrels of herring taken annually and cured. The manner in which this fishery is managed is after the Dutch fashion, which renders it very beneficial to the country. The boats belong partly to fishermen, who employ the rest of the year in catching white fish; and partly to land men who build and equip them. An adventure of this kind is called a *drave*. The manufactories of the town are, a soap work, an iron foundry, &c., but fish curing is the chief trade in this place.

COCKBURNSPATH—9th STATION.

From Edinburgh 37 miles.....Berwick 21 miles.

Near this Station is the rocky promontory of Fast Castle. The celebrated Pease or Path's Bridge is in this neighbourhood, carrying the old road to Berwick over a very deep ravine. The road-way of this bridge is 120 feet from the bottom of the Pease Burn which flows beneath; it is 300 feet long, and with the parapet walls 15 feet wide. This work is often visited from curiosity, being considered the highest bridge in the world. The remains of military encampments are conspicuous in this district. Dunglass, the seat of Sir John Hall, Bart., is in this parish. The village of Cockburnspath is adjacent and partly on the road from Dunbar to Berwick. The Tourist in this quarter of Scotland should visit, in passing, the *Cove Shore*, below the village of Cockburnspath. Here the sea is hemmed in by very high sandstone precipices, and in one place the only approach to the coast is by a long descending passage cut out of rock, wide enough to admit a horse and cart. The bridge carrying the Railway over Dunglas Deau is well worthy of a visit, from its romantic situation, and the elegant style in which it is built.

GRANT'S HOUSE—10th STATION.

From Edinburgh 41½ miles.....Berwick 16½ miles.

This Station is nearly opposite the road to Dunse—there is no village of the name. The Station derives its designation from a well-known and long-established Inn near to the spot.

RESTON—11th STATION.

From Edinburgh 46½ miles.....Berwick 11½ miles.

Reston village is within a short distance of the Station, there is nothing remarkable connected with its history. The coaches to and from Dunse meet the trains at this Station.

AYTON—12th STATION.

From Edinburgh 50½ miles.....Berwick 7½ miles.

The village of Ayton occupies a delightful situation on the left bank of the Eye, on the high road between London and Edinburgh, 50 miles east-south-east of the latter, and 8 north-west of Berwick. It has two secession meeting houses. There was formerly a small fort at Ayton which was taken by the Earl of Surrey in 1498. A seven years truce was soon after signed between the Scots and English within the parish church of Ayton on the south bank of the river. Several vestiges of Roman encampments are shown in the parish. Mr W. M. Innes of Parson's Green, has recently founded a new Baronial Castle at Ayton.

BERWICK-ON-TWEED—13th STATION.

This Station is 58 miles from Edinburgh.

Berwick is a place of historical importance. In all the wars between Scotland and England, Berwick, and its bridge across the Tweed, were in general one object in the dispute. In 1199 the bridge was carried off by floods, and this gave rise to disputes between William the Lion and the Bishop regarding its re-erection. In the 14th century the passage became the property of the lordly churchman. By their language and appearance, especially the former, the inhabitants of Berwick and its neighbourhood are easily recognized, and in common with the Northumbrians, they speak with that remarkable burr which is found no where else in the kingdom. From Lamberton to Berwick the Line runs partly along the sea-side.

SCOTTISH UNION FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

INSTITUTED 1824,
INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

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Life Department.

At the First Investigation of Profits on 1st August 1841, a Bonus was declared averaging 2 *per cent.* *per annum* on the sums insured.

The Second Investigation takes place on 1st August 1846, and Parties effecting Insurances previous to that date will participate in the Division.

Fire Department.

This Company insures almost all kinds of Property against accidents arising from Fire, at rates commensurate with the risk.

The Directors can with confidence refer to the promptitude and liberality with which accidental losses are adjusted by this Institution.

Copies of Prospectus, and all other Information, may be had on application at the Head Office of the Company, 47 George Street, Edinburgh, or at any of the Company's Agents.

By order of the Directors,

GEORGE RAMSAY, *Manager.*
JAMES BARLAS, *Secretary.*

STANDARD
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1845.

THIS IS THE YEAR in which the *Third Division* of the Company's Profits falls to be made. The necessary investigation is now in progress, and all persons Assuring before 15th November next, will share in the Division.

The Standard, in point of *Business*, in point of *Income*, and in point of *extent of connection*, is the first Proprietary Office in Scotland; while the success which has attended the business, and its judicious regulations, are such as to give every prospect of great and increasing advantages to all connected with it.

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Manager.

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